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Holdings Inc. and Certain of Its Affiliates

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re : Chapter 11 Case No.

:

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al., : 08-13555 (JMP)

:

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

• ----**v** 

STIPULATION, AGREEMENT AND ORDER AUTHORIZING STEARNS WEAVER MILLER WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON, P.A. TO DISTRIBUTE ESCROWED FUNDS

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. ("<u>LBHI</u>"), as Plan Administrator (the "<u>Plan</u> <u>Administrator</u>") pursuant to the *Modified Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and its Affiliated Debtors* (the "<u>Plan</u>"), and Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. ("<u>Stearns Weaver</u>" and, together with the Plan Administrator, the "Parties"), hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

## **RECITALS**

A. On September 15, 2008 and periodically thereafter (as applicable, the "Commencement Date"), LBHI and certain of its subsidiaries commenced voluntary cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"). The Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered under Case No. 08-13555 (JMP).

- B. On December 6, 2011, the Court entered an order confirming the Plan (ECF No. 23023). The Plan became effective on March 6, 2012.
- C. Prior to the Commencement Date, LBHI was a co-proponent of an Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization (the "<u>Texas Meadows Plan</u>") in the chapter 11 case of Texas Meadows, Ltd. ("<u>Texas Meadows</u>") which was pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida (Orlando) [Case No. 01-08627] (the "<u>Texas Meadows Bankruptcy Case</u>"). The Texas Meadows Plan was confirmed on June 19, 2003, a final decree was entered on September 23, 2003 and the Texas Meadows Bankruptcy Case is now closed.
- D. Stearns Weaver represented LBHI in the Texas Meadows Bankruptcy

  Case.
- E. According to Stearns Weaver, section 5.05 of the Texas Meadows Plan provides that if Texas Meadows and Charles Palmer ("Palmer"), the guarantor/principal of Texas Meadows, comply with certain provisions contained in the Plan, such compliance will be "in full and complete satisfaction of all obligations set forth in Section 2.02 [of the Texas Meadows Plan]." These obligations included, among other things, Palmer's obligations related to a Guaranty of Payment and a Hazardous Material Guaranty and Indemnification Agreement, each dated as of September 3, 1998 (each as defined in the Texas Meadows Plan).
- F. In connection with the Texas Meadows Plan and a letter dated

  September 17, 2003 from Texas Meadows' bankruptcy counsel, Texas Meadows delivered to

  Stearns Weaver a check in the amount of \$132,416.53 (the "Escrowed Funds") with instructions to deposit and hold the Escrowed Funds in trust until such time as LBHI, upon Texas Meadows' compliance with the Plan, delivered a release in favor of Palmer. The Escrowed Funds represent amounts due to LBHI under the Texas Meadows Plan and nothing in the Plan or the related confirmation order requires LBHI to provide Palmer with a separate documented release.

- G. Stearns Weaver and LBHI made numerous good-faith attempts to accommodate Palmer's extraordinary request, but ultimately were unable to do so. In fact, after the initial negotiations, Palmer stopped responding to Stearns Weaver's and LBHI's numerous telephone calls, correspondence, and emails regarding the requested release and the Escrowed Funds. Palmer's unresponsiveness prevented LBHI from collecting the Escrowed Funds prior to the Commencement Date.
- H. According to Stearns Weaver, no other parties have asserted claims to the
   Escrowed Funds.
- I. In order to resolve the issues related to the release of the Escrowed Funds, the Parties have agreed that it is in their best interests to enter into this Stipulation, Agreement and Order upon the terms and conditions herein.

## NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES, AND, UPON COURT APPROVAL HEREOF, IT SHALL BE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order shall have no force or effect unless and until approved by the Court (the "Effective Date").
- The Recitals set forth above form an integral part of this Stipulation,
   Agreement and Order and are incorporated fully herein.
- 3. Simultaneously with the filing of this Stipulation, LBHI shall provide a copy of this Stipulation, Agreement and Order by e-mail, to the extent available, and overnight delivery to parties set forth on Exhibit A hereto (the "Notice Parties"). Notice of this Stipulation, Agreement and Order, as described herein, shall be deemed to be sufficient pursuant to this Court's second amended order governing case management and administrative procedures, entered on June 17, 2010 (ECF No. 9635).

- 4. Within five (5) business days of the Effective Date, Stearns Weaver shall disburse the Escrowed Funds as follows: (i) \$8,000 to Stearns Weaver for reasonable and necessary post-petition attorneys' fees and costs incurred to resolve the issues concerning the Escrowed Funds; and (ii) the balance of approximately \$124,416.53 to LBHI. The payment to LBHI provided for in this paragraph shall be made by wire transfer pursuant to wiring instructions provided to Stearns Weaver by the Plan Administrator.
- subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, successors in interest, all current, past and future officers, directors, partners, principals, agents, insurers, servants, employees, representatives, attorneys, and advisors, acting in their capacities as such (collectively, the "Released Parties"), shall release each other from any and all claims (including, without limitation, claims for contribution and indemnification), suits, damages, debts, liabilities, obligations, guarantees, covenants, contracts, agreements, promises, judgments, demands, actions or manner of actions, whether the same be known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, material or immaterial, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, direct or indirect or nominally or beneficially possessed or claimed, arising prior to the Effective Date solely as they relate to the Escrowed Funds or matters related thereto; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall release the Released Parties from their respective obligations or waive the rights of the Released Parties set forth in this Stipulation, Agreement and Order.
- 6. Upon the Effective Date, the Notice Parties shall be deemed to have released the Released Parties from any and all claims (including, without limitation, claims for contribution and indemnification), suits, damages, debts, liabilities, obligations, guarantees, covenants, contracts, agreements, promises, judgments, demands, actions or manner of actions, whether the same be known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, material or immaterial,

absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, direct or indirect or nominally or beneficially possessed or claimed, arising prior to the Effective Date <u>solely</u> as they relate to the Escrowed Funds or matters related thereto.

- 7. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order contains the entire agreement between the Parties as to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements and undertakings among the Parties relating thereto.
- 8. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order may only be amended or otherwise modified by a signed writing executed by the Parties.
- 9. Each person who executes this Stipulation, Agreement and Order by or on behalf of a Party represents and warrants that he or she has been duly authorized and empowered to execute and deliver this Stipulation, Agreement and Order on behalf of such Party.
- 10. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument, and it shall constitute sufficient proof of this Stipulation, Agreement and Order to present any copy, copies, electronic copies, or facsimiles signed by the Parties.
- 11. Each Party to this Stipulation, Agreement and Order represents that it fully understands the terms hereof. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order shall not be strictly construed against either Party on the ground that the rules for the construction of contracts require the resolution of any ambiguity against the Party that drafted the document.
- 12. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order shall be binding upon and inure solely to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns. Nothing contained herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other person or entity any legal or equitable right, benefit, or remedy of any nature whatsoever under or by reason of this Stipulation, Agreement and Order.

13. This Stipulation, Agreement and Order shall be governed by and in accordance with the laws of the state of New York, except to the extent that the Bankruptcy Code applies, without regard to principles of conflicts of law that would require the application of laws of another jurisdiction. This Court shall retain jurisdiction to resolve any disputes or controversies arising from this Stipulation, Agreement and Order

Dated: April 4, 2013 Miami, Florida

> /s/ Jonathan C. Vair Jonathan C. Vair

STEARNS WEAVER MILLER WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON, P.A. Museum Tower, Suite 2200 150 West Flagler Street Miami, Florida 33130

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Dated: April 4, 2013

New York, New York

/s/ Jacqueline Marcus

Jacqueline Marcus

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Attorneys for Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and

Certain of its Affiliates

SO ORDERED:

Dated: May 23, 2013 New York, New York

/s/ James M. Peck

Hon. James M. Peck

**United States Bankruptcy Judge**